

Fig. 1: 3-tier architecture

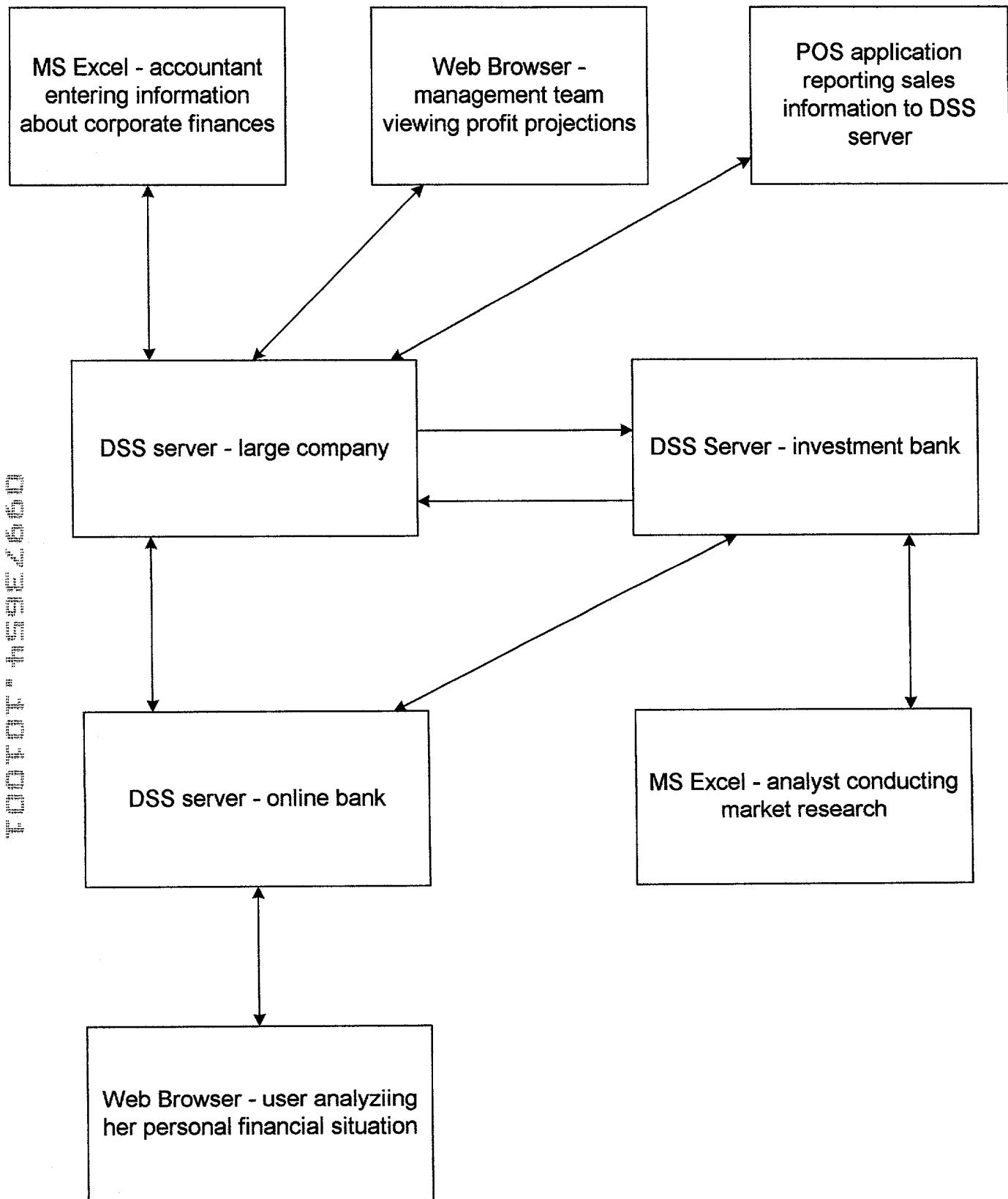


Figure 2 - Various users sharing data using distributed spreadsheets.

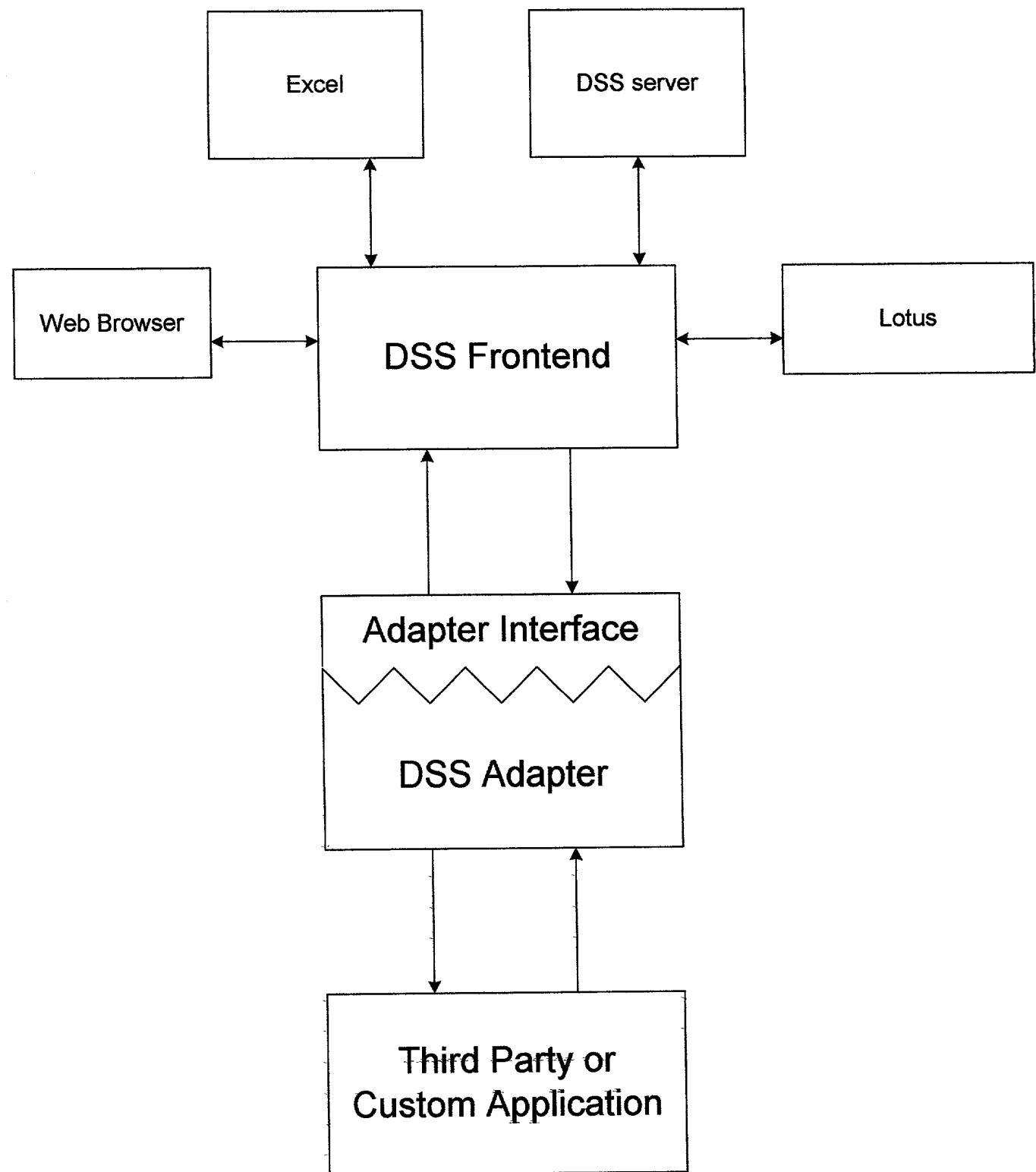


Figure 3 - all communication with the DSS server constructed in this manner goes through the frontend. Note that only the DSS adapter needs to be rebuilt for the particular 3rd party application.

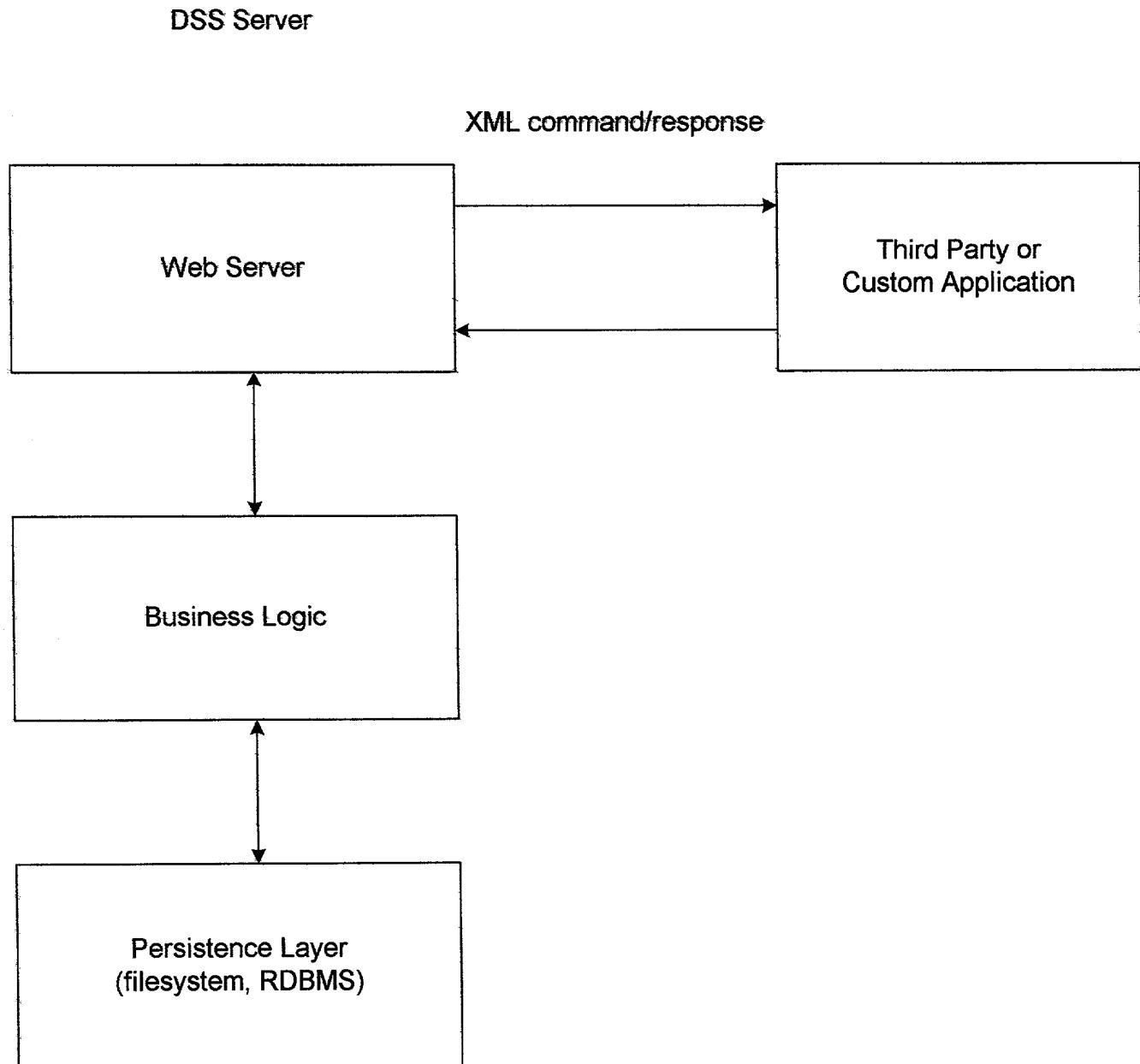


Figure 4 - integration by report. The third party application sends XML files to the DSS server representing data it has accumulated, for example, when a book is sold. The DSS server saves the information about these reports in a DSS object.